



## Nuclear Security Summit to take place in Washington, D.C.

On April 12-13, 2010, President Obama will host a **Nuclear Security Summit** in Washington, DC, to enhance international cooperation to prevent nuclear terrorism, an issue which he has identified as the most immediate and extreme threat to global security. President Obama has invited over 40 nations to participate, representing a diverse set of regions and various levels of nuclear materials, energy, and expertise.

The goals of the Nuclear Security Summit are to come to a common understanding of the threat posed by nuclear terrorism, to agree to effective measures to secure nuclear material, and to prevent nuclear smuggling and terrorism. The Summit will focus on the security of nuclear materials, leaving other broad topics such as nonproliferation, disarmament, and peaceful nuclear energy to different forums.



### **Statement by President Barack Obama on the Release of Nuclear Posture Review.** April 2010

The 2010 **Nuclear Posture Review** (NPR) outlines the Administration's approach to promoting the President's agenda for reducing nuclear dangers and pursuing the goal of a world without nuclear weapons, while simultaneously advancing broader U.S. security interests. The NPR reflects the President's national security priorities and the supporting defense strategy objectives identified in the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review.

### **40th Anniversary of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty** Statement from US Secretary of State.

### **Fulfilling a Promise from Prague** **NATO's Nuclear Policy in 2010: Issues and Options**

### **A World Free of Nuclear Weapons**

### **Toward a Nuclear-Free World**

### **Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation**

### **New York Times article/interview**

### **Obama Administration Revamps Nuclear Policy**

The Obama administration issued a new U.S. nuclear strategy April 6 that sharply narrows the use of nuclear weapons, but maintains their traditional role to deter a nuclear strike against the United States.

### **SPOTLIGHT is produced monthly by the American Reference Center, Office of Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy Wellington.**

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## Contents

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>U.S. Government.....</b>                                  | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>Middle East .....</b>                                     | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Education .....</b>                                       | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>Environment &amp; Climate Change.....</b>                 | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>Defense &amp; Security .....</b>                          | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>International Relations .....</b>                         | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>East Asia &amp; Pacific .....</b>                         | <b>8</b>  |
| <b>Economics, Finance &amp; Trade .....</b>                  | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>Media, Internet &amp; Communications Technology .....</b> | <b>10</b> |
| <b>Labor &amp; Social Issues .....</b>                       | <b>11</b> |
| <b>Energy.....</b>   | <b>12</b> |
| <b>Agriculture .....</b>                                     | <b>13</b> |
| <b>Science &amp; Technology .....</b>                        | <b>13</b> |

## U.S. Government

**Understanding the President's FY2011 Budget** by John S. Irons. *Economic Policy Institute*. February 2010.

Now that President Obama has released his budget, Irons offers further analysis.

**Midterm Election Challenges for Both Parties: Obama's Ratings are Flat, Wall Street's are Abysmal.** *Pew Research Center for the People & the Press*. February 12, 2010.

Nine months ahead of the midterm elections, voters have conflicted attitudes about both political parties. Opinions of the Republican Party have improved significantly, and for the first time in years the GOP's favorable ratings nearly equal the Democratic Party's. Voting intentions for the fall elections also remain closely divided. However, the Democratic Party is still better regarded in many respects than is the GOP and far more people continue to blame the Republicans than the Democrats for the current state of the economy. **ARTICLE 71**

**Annual Report to the President on Progress Implementing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.** *The White House*. February 2010.

The report summarizes Recovery Act progress to-date and lays out projections for the program in the coming months.

**Tax Proposals in the 2011 Budget.** *Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center*. February 19, 2010.

The Tax Policy Center has examined the key tax proposals in President Obama's 2011 budget. Separate discussions describe each of the proposals including current law, proposed changes, and distributional effects. The budget as presented by the president lacks complete details on many of the tax proposals. Some provisions had virtually no detail and our discussion of them is necessarily limited.

**Vice President Biden Announces Nearly 200 New Recovery Act Transit Projects in 42 States.** *The White House*. March 5, 2010.

Vice President Joe Biden and U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood announce funding for 191 new Recovery Act transit projects in 42 states and Puerto Rico that will help transform the nation's infrastructure and support thousands of jobs across the country.

**FY 2011 Budget Documents: Internet and GPO Availability** by Jennifer Teefy. *Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress*. March 8, 2010.

Every year, the President submits to Congress a series of volumes containing the President's proposed budget for the coming fiscal year. This report provides brief descriptions of the budget volumes and related documents. It also tells how to find locations of government depository libraries, which can provide both printed copies for reference use and Internet access to the text. [ARTICLE 72](#)

## **Middle East**

**Transnational Insurgencies and the Escalation of Regional conflict Lessons for Iraq and Afghanistan** by Idean Salehyan. *Strategic Studies Institute*. March 4, 2010.

Many insurgent groups benefit from sanctuaries in neighboring countries where they are relatively safe from state security forces. Transnational insurgencies have the potential to spark conflicts and this report examines several transnational insurgencies that have been active since the end of the Cold War. [ARTICLE 73](#)

**Getting to the Territorial Endgame of an Israeli-Palestinian Peace Settlement** by Edward P. Djerejian. *James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy*. February 2010.

The author says that guidelines will be needed for introducing a U.S. oversight function for Israeli settlement activities. The purpose will be to gradual progress, including planning the sequence of settlement evacuation /relocation and providing ways assist parties concerning agreements and disagreements. [ARTICLE 74](#)

**The Economics of Influencing Iran** by Suzanne Maloney. *Brookings Institution*. March 22, 2010.

Influencing the Islamic Republic of Iran has proven to be a perennial conundrum for American presidents, says the author. The complexity of Iranian politics and the intractability of the problems posed by Tehran's revolutionary theocracy may explain why, over three decades, each U.S. administration has been forced to revise its approach to Iran in hopes of achieving better outcomes. The result has been an American tendency to oscillate between engagement and pressure, with frustratingly limited results. [ARTICLE 75](#)

**Can Iran's Accelerating Nuclear Program be Stopped?** By Leonard S. Spector. *YaleGlobal*. March 2010.

Iran appears to have stepped up its efforts to produce a nuclear weapon amid new information about its level of technological expertise and its dealings with North Korea, according to nonproliferation expert Leonard S. Spector. Iran has been able to enrich uranium to the 19.75% level, a significant step toward producing weapons-grade uranium. That Iran wants to enrich all of its uranium supply to this level, beyond what it would likely need for medical isotopes, suggests the desire and ability to build a nuclear weapon. [ARTICLE 76](#)

**U.S.-Iranian Relations: an Analytic Compendium of U.S. Policies, Laws, and Regulations.** *Atlantic Council*. March 9, 2010.

This Compendium contains the major regulations, laws, and documents governing U.S. interactions with Iran. Also provided are U.N. Security Council Resolutions, agreements between Iran and other countries on various issues, and documents that represent major policy decisions in U.S. relations with Iran. [ARTICLE 77](#)

**Who Speaks for Islam? Muslim Grassroots Leaders and Popular Preachers in South Asia** by Mumtaz Ahmad et al. *National Bureau of Asian Research*. February 2010.

Globalization processes are changing the dynamics of Muslim religious authority in South Asia. The authors examine the evolving social and political roles of Muslim religious figures and leaders in Pakistan, India, and Afghanistan. The study finds that the role of religious leadership at the local level has not been diminished by increasing globalization, but nontraditional voices of religious authority are emerging and traditional leaders are using new media tools to reach wider audiences. [ARTICLE 78](#)

**Health Initiative and Counter-Insurgency Strategy in Afghanistan** by Leonard Rubenstein. *U.S. Institute of Peace*. March 5, 2010.

An initiative by the Ministry of Public Health in Afghanistan to expand health services throughout the country, including rural communities, and supported by donors including USAID, has vastly expanded access to primary

health care services, significantly reduced child mortality, and increased the capacity of the Afghan government to provide an essential service to its people.

**ARTICLE 79**

**Mixed Views of Hamas and Hezbollah in Largely Muslim Nations: Little Enthusiasm for Many Muslim Leaders.** *Pew Global Attitudes Project*. February 4, 2010.

Across predominantly Muslim nations, there is little enthusiasm for the extremist organizations Hamas and Hezbollah, although there are pockets of support for both groups. Four years after its victory in Palestinian parliamentary elections, Hamas receives relatively positive ratings in Jordan and Egypt. However, Palestinians are more likely to give the group a negative rating.

**ARTICLE 80**

**Al Qaeda and Affiliates: Historical Perspective, Global Presence, and Implications for U.S. Policy** by John Rollins. *Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress*. February 5, 2010.

Al Qaeda has evolved into a significantly different terrorist organization than the one that perpetrated the September 11, 2001, attacks. At the time, Al Qaeda was composed mostly of a core cadre of veterans of the Afghan insurgency against the Soviets, with a centralized leadership structure, made up mostly of Egyptians. The focus of the report is on the history of Al Qaeda, actions and capabilities of the organization and non-aligned entities, and an analysis of select regional Al Qaeda affiliates.

**ARTICLE 81**

**The Islamic Republic at 31: Post-Election Abuses Show Serious Human Rights Crisis.** *Human Rights Watch*. February 11, 2010.

The report contends that the post-election abuses show serious human rights crisis.

**Bad Company – Lashkar and the Growing Ambition of Islamist Militancy in Pakistan** by Ashley J. Tellis. *Congressional Testimony, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*. March 11, 2010.

Tensions between nuclear-armed neighbors India and Pakistan remain high. In testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Ashley Tellis warned that continued Pakistani support for the terrorist group Lashkar e-Tayyiba threatens to undermine the delicate peace between the two countries and plunge the region into conflict, with significant consequences for American interests abroad.

**ARTICLE 82**

**Pakistan's Nuclear Weapons: Proliferation and Security Issues** by Paul K. Kerr and Mary Beth Nikitin. *Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress*. February 23, 2010.

Pakistan's nuclear arsenal consists of approximately 60 nuclear warheads. Islamabad is producing fissile material, adding to related production facilities, and deploying additional delivery vehicles. These steps will enable Pakistan to undertake both quantitative and qualitative improvements to its nuclear arsenal. Whether and to what extent Pakistan's current expansion of its nuclear weapons-related facilities is a response to the 2008 U.S.-India nuclear cooperation agreement is unclear.

**ARTICLE 83**

## **Education**

**Chasing the College Acceptance Letter: is it Harder to get into College?** *Center for Public Education*. January 2010.

It is no more difficult for most students to get into college today than it was a decade ago. The shrinking acceptance rates cited in so many news reports likely come from a higher number of applications per student. However, the average applicant today has about the same chance of getting into a competitive college as an average applicant a decade ago.

**ARTICLE 84**

**Education Under Attack 2010.** *U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*. February 10, 2010.

The number of politically and ideologically motivated attacks on teachers, students and school buildings is rising, says the report. These attacks are perpetrated by non-state armed groups and state actors alike.

**Protecting Education from Attack**

**Punching Below its Weight: the U.S. Government Approach to Education in the Developing World** by Rebecca Winthrop. *Brookings Institution*. February 16, 2010.

Global education plays an important role in contributing to U.S. foreign policy objectives. Unfortunately, according to the report, its many good education activities and programs are not leveraged for maximum impact on the ground, especially in situations of armed conflict and state fragility. [\*\*ARTICLE 85\*\*](#)

**The Online Learning Imperative: a Solution to Three Looming Crises in Education** by Bob Wise and Robert Rothman. *Alliance for Excellent Education*. February 2010.

The paper details how the use of online technology in today's secondary school classrooms can strengthen the teacher workforce, improve student outcomes, and allow states to do more despite flat education budgets. According to the paper, state and local public officials are faced with stark realities that will force major changes in traditional education processes, especially for middle and high schools. [\*\*ARTICLE 86\*\*](#)

**1-to-1 in Education: Current Practice, International Comparative Research Evidence and Policy Implications** by Oscar Valiente. *Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development*. March 4, 2010.

Over the last decade more public and private stakeholders in developed and developing countries, have been supporting 1:1 initiatives in education. These 1:1 initiatives represent a qualitative move forward from previous educational experiences with ICT. The paper compares the most salient evidence about 1:1 initiatives in education drawing on websites, program evaluations and academic meta-reviews. [\*\*ARTICLE 87\*\*](#)

**Paving the Way Through Paid Internships: A Proposal to Expand Educational and Economic Opportunities for Low-Income College Students** by Kathryn Edwards & Alexander Hertel-Fernandez. *Economic Policy Institute*. March 23, 2010.

As Spring 2010 college graduates prepare to search for jobs, many from low-income families will start at a disadvantage because they have had to work rather than take often unpaid professional internships that provide key skills for entering the workforce. A new proposal seeks to remedy this inequity by providing funding for low-income students to take high-quality public service internships. [\*\*ARTICLE 88\*\*](#)

**Education, Infrastructure, and Border Economic Growth** by Thomas M. Fullerton Jr. et al. *James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy*. March 24, 2010.

The study shows how economic recovery programs may improve, or fail to improve, regional education systems.

## Environment & Climate Change

**Climate Shocks and Exports** by Benjamin F. Jones and Benjamin A. Olken. *National Bureau of Economic Research*. Web posted February 1, 2010.

The paper examines panel models relating the annual growth rate of a country's exports in a particular product category to the country's weather in that year. The paper finds that a poor country being 1 degree Celsius warmer in a given year reduces the growth rate of that country's exports by between 2.0 and 5.7%, with no detectable effects in rich countries. It also finds negative effects of temperature on exports of agricultural and light manufacturing products, with little apparent effects on heavy industry or raw materials. [\*\*ARTICLE 89\*\*](#)

**Five Years of Kyoto** by Nathan Hultman. *Brookings Institution*. February 9, 2010.

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, the Kyoto Protocol reached the fifth anniversary of its entry into force. While technically not a "birthday" this milestone provides an opportunity to reflect on the wider meaning and significance of this instrument into which perhaps too many expectations were invested.

**Parenting the Planet** by Sarah Karkoff. *University of Colorado Law School*. February 10, 2010.

Climate change and other problems of global scale indicate that we have entered the "Anthropocene," the era of pervasive human influence on the earth's natural systems. The author suggests that the metaphor of parenting captures the aspects of control, care, and inherent tragedy that characterize the stage that humans now occupy with respect to their relationship with the planet. [\*\*ARTICLE 90\*\*](#)

**Roots of Copenhagen Failure: Nature Does Not Recognize Nations** by Bo Ekman. *YaleGlobal*. Mar. 2010.



The Copenhagen climate summit was not just a failure to achieve meaningful results to avert climate change, it was also a failure for national actors to find solutions to supranational problems, according to Bo Ekman. Indeed, the summit was likely to fail from the beginning not simply because national self-interest often trumps global common interest, but because the structure of the world order is not designed to solve environmental problems that know no national boundary. [ARTICLE 91](#)

**Arctic Treasure: Global Assets Melting Away.** *Pew Charitable Trusts.* February 2010.

Ice and snow are defining features of the Arctic. At no point in at least 800,000 years has the Arctic been without sea ice. By some projection the region may lose summer sea ice as soon as 2030. In a sense, the value of this ice is incalculable. Arctic ice defines the homelands and cultures of indigenous peoples and ecosystems that harbor species which are uniquely adapted to this environment. [ARTICLE 92](#)

**Ozone Air Quality Standards: EPA's Proposed January 2010 Revisions** by James E. McCarthy. *Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress.* February 2010.

The proposed standards will set in motion an implementation process that has far-reaching impacts for public health, sources of pollution in numerous economic sectors, and state and local governments. The first step is expected to take place in summer 2011, with the areas designated then having 3-20 years to reach attainment. The report discusses the standard-setting process, the specifics of the new standard, and issues raised by the Administrator's choice; and it describes the steps that will follow EPA's promulgation. [ARTICLE 93](#)

**Promoting the Dialogue: Climate Change and the Maritime Services** by Christine Partheore. *Center for New American Security.* March 11, 2010.

Climate change carries broad implications for U.S. interests. Scientists forecast an increasingly accessible Arctic, sea level rise, melting glaciers and ice sheets, changing patterns of natural disasters and alterations to ocean conditions. These changes hold consequences for national security; they may affect military installations, generate challenges for U.S. access to the global commons and contribute to economic and political instability abroad, with implications for U.S. maritime missions in particular. The author synthesizes how the maritime services are thinking about climate change and assesses potential policy implications. [ARTICLE 94](#)

**Climate Change: Preliminary Observations on Geo-engineering Science, Federal Efforts, and Governance Issues** by Frank Rusco. *U.S. Government Accountability Office.* March 18, 2010.

Key scientific assessments have underscored the urgency of reducing emissions of carbon dioxide to help mitigate potentially negative effects of climate change. Some policymakers have raised questions about geo-engineering and its role in a strategy of mitigating and adapting to climate change. [ARTICLE 95](#)

## **Defense & Security**

**Compass 2010: Global Aerospace & Defense Sector Outlook.** *Deloitte.* February 10, 2010.

There are positive signs for the global aerospace and defense industry in 2010 according to the report. Orders for new commercial aircraft are projected to rebound in 2010 to over 800 units, reversing the steep decline in 2009. Likewise, orders for business jets are showing signs of improvement, and new requirements for innovative technologies are expected to drive demand for defense companies. [ARTICLE 96](#)

**Cyberterrorism Hype v. Fact** by Robert K. Knake. *Council on Foreign Relations.* February 16, 2010.

The recently released Annual Threat Assessment warned of cyber attacks, but that doesn't mean al-Qaeda is capable of cyber terrorism, says CFR's Robert K. Knake. [Annual Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community](#)

**Arsenal's End? American Power and the Global Defense Industry** by Ethan B. Kapstein. *Center for a New American Security.* February 19, 2010.

The recent firing of the F-35 Program Manager by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates has heightened concerns in the policy community that the plane is failing to meet its economic and military objectives. But in the

report, Ethan Kapstein suggests that the multinational F-35 exemplifies the complexity of the Pentagon's global acquisition strategy.

**Cybersecurity: Progress Made but Challenges Remain in Defining and Coordinating the Comprehensive National Initiative.** *U.S. Government Accountability Office.* March 2010.

In response to the ongoing threats to federal systems and operations posed by cyber attacks, President Bush established the Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative (CNCI) in 2008. This initiative consists of projects aimed at reducing vulnerabilities, protecting against intrusions, and anticipating future threats. GAO was asked to determine what actions have been taken to develop interagency mechanisms to plan and coordinate CNCI activities and what challenges CNCI faces in achieving its objectives. **ARTICLE 97**

**A Growing Terrorist Threat?: Assessing 'Homegrown' Extremism in the U.S.** by Rick Nelson and Ben Bodurian. *Center for Strategic & International Studies.* March 8, 2010.

The report discusses five events that occurred in fall 2009 which thrust concerns over "homegrown" terrorism or extremist violence perpetrated by U.S. legal residents and citizens into public view. **ARTICLE 98**

**Provisional Republic Army (IRA)** by Kathryn Gregory. *Council on Foreign Relations.* March 16, 2010.

The provisional Irish Republican Army, or IRA, is an outgrowth of an older group known as the Irish Republican Army, which fought an insurgency that successfully challenged British rule in the whole of Ireland in the early years of the twentieth century.

**State Sponsors: Cuba.** *Council on Foreign Relations.* March 23, 2010.

The U.S. State Department continues to list Cuba as a state sponsor of terror, though most experts say the country no longer poses a threat to U.S. national security.

**Visa Security Policy: Roles of the Departments of State and Homeland Security** by Ruth Ellen Wasem. *Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress.* March 8, 2010.

The case of Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, who allegedly attempted to ignite an explosive device on Northwest Airlines Flight 253 on December 25, 2009, has refocused attention on the responsibilities of the Departments of State and Homeland Security for the visa process. **ARTICLE 99**

## International Relations

**Globalization: Curse or Cure?** by Jagadeesh Gokhale. *The Cato Institute.* February 1, 2010.

Globalization holds tremendous promise to improve human welfare but can also cause conflicts and crises as witnessed during 2007–09. How will competition for resources, employment, and growth shape economic policies among developed nations as they attempt to maintain productivity growth, social protections, and extensive political and cultural freedoms? The author strives to answer these questions. **ARTICLE 100**

**U.S.-Israel: Time for an 'Honest' Talk** by Bernard Gwetzman et al. *CFR.* March 22, 2010.

President Obama's scheduled meeting with Prime Minister Netanyahu should stress that any rejection of a peace settlement will erode the U.S.-Israeli relationship, says Middle East diplomatic historian William B. Quandt.

**The World Order in 2050** by Uri Dadush and Bennett Stancil. *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.* February 22, 2010.

The rise of China, India, and other emerging markets has been anticipated for years by numerous economists, and the recent global recession has only accelerated this trend. New projections for economic growth through 2050 offer insight into the implications of this changing economic landscape. **ARTICLE 101**

**Diplomacy Rebooted: Making Digital Statecraft a Reality** by Christopher Bronk. *James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy.* March 2, 2010.

The State Department is now in a position to build novel applications to support the mission of diplomacy, contends Chris Bronk.

**The Future of U.S. Public Diplomacy.** U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. March 2010.

Testimonies before U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations hearing:

[Statement by Evelyn S. Lieberman](#)

[Written Testimony of Ambassador Karen Hughes](#)

[Testimony by James K. Glassman](#)

[Statement by Judith McHale](#)

**Obama's Missed Opportunity in Indonesia** by Joshua Kurlantzick. *CFR*. March 20, 2010.

President Obama must not let his postponed trip to Indonesia scuttle U.S. plans to forge a lasting strategic partnership with an emerging world power, writes CFR's Joshua Kurlantzick.

**Haiti: a Once-in-Century Chance for Change.** *Oxfam International*. March 26, 2010.

Before the devastating earthquake of January 2010, Haiti was showing signs of dynamism. However, the pre-existing extreme levels of poverty and inequality exacerbated the devastation. Haiti's reconstruction, if badly managed, will perpetuate the country's inequality, benefiting the rich and creating new risk for the poor. If well managed, it really could help to build a better Haiti, according to the report. **ARTICLE 102**

## East Asia & Pacific

**Submarine Arms Race in the Pacific: the Chinese Challenge to U.S. Undersea Supremacy** by Mackenzie Eaglen and Jon Rodeback. *The Heritage Foundation*. February 2, 2010.

Since the end of the Cold War, China has dramatically expanded its navy, adding dozens of attack submarines since 1995. During the same period, the U.S. attack submarine fleet has shrunk to 53, and is projected to fall to 41 in 2028. Other Pacific countries have taken note of the shifting balance and have responded with their own naval buildups. Unless the U.S. stops and reverses the decline of its own fleet, U.S. military superiority in the Pacific will continue to wane, severely limiting the Navy's ability to operate in the region, to protect U.S. interests, and to support U.S. friends and allies, says the brief. **ARTICLE 103**

**Will Japan Emerge from its Shell?** *YaleGlobal*. February 3, 2010.

For the world's second largest economy, Japan takes a decidedly backseat approach to involvement in global affairs. While there are no rules to force global intercourse, Japan-specialist Edward J. Lincoln believes that as a key beneficiary and user of global public goods, Japan should become more involved.

**Part I: Climate Change is a Good Platform for Japan's Greater Global Intercourse** Edward J. Lincoln

**Part II: The New Government Finds Charting a New Course not so Easy** Daniel Sneider

**North Korea Under Tightening Sanctions.** *International Crisis Group*. March 15, 2010.

The recent tightening of economic sanctions could trigger North Korean instability as the country's human security tragedy deteriorates. Although North Korea appears stable, the regime has been shaken by tough international sanctions, domestic challenges, and the consequences of its own poor policy choices. The internal problems could have unanticipated implications for regional and international security. **ARTICLE 104**

**China Prepares for an Ice-Free Arctic** by Linda Jakobson. *Stockholm Intn'l Peace Research Inst*. Mar. 2010.

The prospect of the Arctic being navigable during summer months as a result of climate change has impelled the Chinese Government to allocate more resources to research in the High North. Several Chinese academics have encouraged their government to be aware of the political, economic and military implications of shorter shipping routes and untapped energy resources. However, Chinese officials advocate cautious Arctic policies for fear of causing alarm and provoking countermeasures among the Arctic states. **ARTICLE 105**

**Unfair China Trade Costs Local Jobs: 2.4 Million Jobs Lost, Thousands Displaced in Every U.S. Congressional District** by Robert E. Scott. *Economic Policy Institute*. March 23, 2010.



The report finds the growing trade deficit between the U.S. and China eliminated or displaced an estimated 2.4 million American jobs between 2001 and 2008.

[Net Job Loss Due to Growing Trade Deficits with China 2001-08](#), by Congressional District Tables

## **Economics, Finance & Trade**

**The Global Crisis and the Future of the Dollar: Toward Bretton Woods III?** by Jorg Bibow. *Levy Economics Institute of Bard College*. February 2010.

The paper investigates the U.S. dollar's role as the international currency of choice as a key contributing factor in critical global developments that led to the crisis of 2007–09, and considers the future role of the dollar as the global economy emerges from that crisis.

[ARTICLE 106](#)

**Economic Report of the President.** *Council of Economic Advisers*. February 11, 2010.

The Economic Report of the President is an annual report written by the Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers. An important vehicle for presenting the Administration's economic policies, it provides an overview of the nation's economic progress with text and extensive data appendices.

**The Transformation of World Trade** by Uri Dadush and Shimelse Ali. *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*. February 22, 2010.

Developing countries are growing rapidly, and long term projections suggest that their rising economic weight will transform world trade. As these emerging economies diversify and become increasingly important export markets, they will come to dominate international trade, according to the report.

[ARTICLE 107](#)

**Effects of Imposing a Value-Added Tax to Replace Payroll or Corporate Taxes** by Eric Toder and Joseph Rosenberg. *New America Foundation*. March 22, 2010.

The report examines the effects of imposing a new value added tax (VAT) in the United States and using the revenue raised to lower payroll tax and corporate income tax rates. We summarize how different forms of VAT operate and compare how a VAT, payroll tax, and corporate income treat different sources of income and the different ways each tax distort economic decision-making.

[ARTICLE 108](#)

**Is Regulation of the Financial System an Oxymoron?** by Jan Kregel. *Levy Economics Institute of Bard College*. February 2010.

The extension of the subprime mortgage crisis to a global financial meltdown led to calls for fundamental regulation of the financial system. That reregulation has been slow in implementation and the proposals under discussion are far from fundamental. One explanation is the fact that many of the difficulties stemmed not from lack of regulation but from a failure to fully implement existing regulations. At the same time, the crisis evolved in stages, interspersed by what appeared to be the system's return to normalcy.

[ARTICLE 109](#)

**America Insecure: Changes in the Economic Security of American Families.** Urban Institute. Gregory Acs and Austin Nichols. Web posted March 23, 2010.

The paper synthesizes findings from a series of Urban Institute reports produced under the "Risk and Low-Income Working Families" research initiative. It is structured around two key questions: (1) How have economic instability and insecurity for America's low-income working families changed over time? and (2) What are the factors that contribute to or offer protection from substantial income losses and promote or inhibit recoveries from such losses?

[ARTICLE 110](#)

**Government Interventions in Response to Financial Turmoil** by Baird Webel and Marc Labonte. *Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress*. February 2010.

In Aug. 2007 asset-backed securities suddenly became illiquid and fell sharply in value as a housing boom turned to a housing bust. In Sept. 2008, the financial crisis reached panic proportions, with some firms failing or having the government step in to prevent their failure. The report reviews new programs introduced and other actions taken by the Treasury, Federal Reserve, and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

[ARTICLE 111](#)

**The Volcker Rule: Not the Solution to Reducing Financial Risk** by David C. John. *The Heritage Foundation*. February 22, 2010.

President Obama has looked to the past to resurrect failed bank regulatory approaches as a way of raising the stakes on his newly emphasized financial regulatory plan. Referred to as the "Volcker rule" after former Fed Chairman Paul Volcker, it would further restrict the size of financial institutions and prevent those with insured deposits from trading in the financial markets on their behalf, according to the author. [ARTICLE 112](#)

**Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Financial Market Cycles** by Josh Lerner. *OECD*. March 2010.

The paper reviews evidence of the relationship between innovation and entrepreneurship. It then turns to understanding the consequences of market cycles and the economic crisis and discusses implications for programs to encourage financing for entrepreneurs and venture capital. [ARTICLE 113](#)

## **Media, Internet & Communications Technology**

**Social Media & Mobile Internet Use Among Teens and Young Adults** by Amanda Lenhart et al. *Pew Internet & American Life Project*. February 3, 2010.

Two Pew Internet Project surveys of teens and adults reveal a decline in blogging among teens and young adults and a modest rise among adults 30+. Even as blogging declines among those under 30, wireless connectivity continues to rise in this age group, as does social network use. [ARTICLE 114](#)

**A New Breed of Brand Advocates: Social Networking Redefines Consumer Engagement.** *Deloitte*. February 2010.

Consumer product companies are witnessing a transformation in how they reach and engage consumers. Technology and social trends are changing the way consumer product companies connect with consumers and how consumers interact with each other in influencing buying decisions. [ARTICLE 115](#)

**An International Look at High-Speed Broadband** by Darrell M. West. *Brookings Institution*. Feb. 2010.

In the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the U.S. Congress charged the Federal Communications Commission with developing a national broadband policy by March 17, 2010. In the report, the author looks at what other countries are doing in terms of broadband applications.

**Google's Lesson: Innovation has to be Accompanied by Reliability** by Rob Knake and Adam Segal. *YaleGlobal*. February 22, 2010.

The most important lesson of Google vs. China may not be about Internet censorship, but the importance of security and the reliability of products. As Council of Foreign Relations fellows Rob Knake and Adam Segal write, two tensions highlight the main obstacles in maintaining security and reliability amid the globalized model of innovation spanning geography and time. Shifting research and development centers off shore and closer to growing markets introduces additional risks of cyber and physical attacks. But the pace of innovation and the pressure to bring the newest technology to market as quickly as possible exposes companies to other risks too. Privacy or security concerns are often an afterthought in product development. [ARTICLE 116](#)

**The Future of the Internet** by Janna Quitney Anderson et al. *Pew Internet & American Life Project*. Feb. 2010.

"Experts and stakeholders say the Internet will enhance our intelligence – not make us stupid. It will also change the functions of reading and writing and be built around still-unanticipated gadgetry and applications. The battle over control of the internet will rage on and debates about online anonymity will persist," say the authors.

**2009 Internet Crime Report**. *Internet Crime Complaint Center*. March 11, 2010.

The report covers fraudulent activity on the Internet today. Online crime complaints increased substantially last year, according to the report. The IC3 received a total of 336,655 complaints, a 22.3% increase from 2008. The total loss linked to online fraud was \$559.7 million; this is up from \$265 million in 2008.

**The State of the News Media an Annual Report on American Journalism.** *Pew Project for Excellence in Journalism.* March 15, 2010.

The report takes stock of the revolution occurring in how Americans get information and provide a resource for citizens, journalists and researchers to make their own assessments. [\*\*ARTICLE 117\*\*](#)

## Labor & Social Issues

**Clean Energy Markets: Jobs and Opportunities.** *Pew Center on Global Climate Change.* February 2010.

The brief discusses how investment in clean energy technologies will generate economic growth and create new jobs in the U.S. and abroad. Action around the world means that global clean energy markets will grow in the coming decades. The U.S. stands to benefit from the development of these markets, but only if it moves quickly to support domestic demand for and production of clean energy technologies. [\*\*ARTICLE 118\*\*](#)

**The Green Mom Eco-cosm: a Social Study into Their Motivations, Convictions and Influence.** *The Social Studies Group.* March 2010.

The study focuses on the women who are influencing “green mom” consumer behavior online; women exploring more sustainable consumer practices each begin an engagement with “green” for their own reasons. The research finds that they have a definite hunger for products to help their families live more sustainably, and they are enthusiastically pursuing “green products”. [\*\*ARTICLE 119\*\*](#)

**Children of the Homefront: the Experiences of Children from Military Families** by Anita Chandra. *RAND Corporation.* March 9, 2010.

This is the testimony presented before the House Armed Services Committee, Subcommittee on Military Personnel on March 9, 2010.

**Global Powers if the Consumer Products Industry 2010: Extracting Value.** *Deloitte.* February 15, 2010.

The third annual report on the world's top 250 consumer product companies includes discussions that provide much-needed perspective on the industry, including: trends companies in the industry will need to address as we emerge from the economic downturn, a global economic overview, and analyses of companies by region, sector, and product line. [\*\*ARTICLE 120\*\*](#)

**Federal Employee Benefits and Same-Sex Partnerships** by Wendy R. Ginsberg. *Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress.* January 21, 2010.

The federal government provides a variety of benefits to its 8 million employees and annuitants. Pursuant to Title 5 U.S.C. Chapters 89, 89A, 89B and other statutes, millions of federal employees may extend these benefits to their spouses and children. An estimated 34,000 federal employees are in same-sex relationships, including state-recognized marriages, civil unions, or domestic partnerships. [\*\*ARTICLE 121\*\*](#)

**Implementing the Repeal of “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell” in the U.S. Armed Forces** by Lawrence J. Korb et al. *Center for American Progress.* March 23, 2010.

The report outlines why implementing the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” can be accomplished quickly and would require few changes in military regulations and practices. The authors find that most existing regulations are already neutral with respect to sexual orientation and therefore don’t need to be modified. Others will require minor changes through legislation or additional executive guidance. [\*\*ARTICLE 122\*\*](#)

**An Analysis of Small Business and Jobs** by Brian Hedd. *Small Business Administration.* March 2010.

Over a recent 15-year period, small businesses created some 65% of the net new jobs in the private sector, according to conservative estimates cited in the report. [\*\*ARTICLE 123\*\*](#)

**Religion Among the Millennials.** *Pew Research Center.* February 17, 2010.

By some key measures, Americans ages 18 to 29 are considerably less religious than older Americans. Fewer young adults belong to any particular faith than older people do today. They also are less likely to be affiliated

than their parents' and grandparents' generations were when they were young. Fully one-in-four members of the Millennial generation are unaffiliated with any particular faith.

**ARTICLE 124**

**2009 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices.** *U.S. Department of State.* March 11, 2010.

"The idea of human rights begins with a fundamental commitment to the dignity that is the birthright of every man, woman and child. For the last 34 years, the U.S. has produced the Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, providing the most comprehensive record available of the condition of human rights around the world," says the Secretary of State introducing the report.

**HIV/AIDS in South Africa: Improved Prognosis** by Peter Navario. *CFR.* February 22, 2010.

The global fight against HIV and AIDS cannot be won without success in South Africa, but while President Zuma's government has made progress, it has to do more to prevent future infections and provide better treatment, says CFR's Peter Navario.

**Deadly Delivery: the Maternal Health Care Crisis in the U.S.** *Amnesty International.* March 2010.

Maternal mortality ratios have increased from 6.6 deaths per 100,000 live births in 1987 to 13.3 in 2006. While some of the recorded increase is due to improved data collection, the fact remains that maternal mortality ratios have risen significantly. Women in the U.S. have a higher risk of dying of pregnancy-related complications than those in 40 other countries, according to the report.

**ARTICLE 125**

**The Cost of Uncompensated Care with and without Health Reform** by John Holahan and Bowen Garrett. *Urban Institute.* March 10, 2010.

The authors estimate that under the health reform bill passed by the Senate, the cost of uncompensated care will fall from \$62.1 billion in 2009 to \$46.6 billion in 2019. If no health reform is enacted, they project that uncompensated care would rise to between \$107 and \$141 billion.

**ARTICLE 126**

**Presidential Summit on Entrepreneurship**

Statement by the Press Secretary on A New Beginning Summit Overview

## Energy

**Do Oil Exports Fuel Defense Spending?** by Clayton K.S. Chun. *Strategic Studies Institute.* February 2010.

During the summer of 2008, Americans and other oil importers faced record prices at the gasoline pump, home heating oil, and industrial products that required petroleum at an ingredient or as an energy source. The rise in price created windfall profits to a number of oil producers. The cost of energy ballooned and created economic hardship in many countries. This situation also caused some observers to fear what oil-exporting nations would do with these windfall profits.

**ARTICLE 127**

**Who's Winning the Clean Energy Race?: Growth, Competition and Opportunity in the World's Largest Economies.** *Pew Charitable Trusts.* March 24, 2010.

For the first time, China led the U.S. and other G-20 members in 2009 clean energy investments and finance, according to the data. China invested \$34.6 billion in the clean energy economy, nearly double the U.S.'s total of \$18.6 billion. Over the last five years, the U.S. also trailed five G-20 members, Turkey, Brazil, China, the United Kingdom, and Italy, in the rate of clean energy investment growth.

**ARTICLE 128**

**Building a Solar Future: Repowering America's Homes, Businesses and Industry with Solar Energy** by Tony Dutzik et al. *Environment America.* March 9, 2010.

America has virtually limitless potential to tap the energy of the sun. Solar energy is clean, safe, proven and available, and the price of solar energy technologies is declining rapidly. By adopting solar energy on a broad scale, the nation can address our biggest energy challenges, according to the authors.

**ARTICLE 129**

**Winning the Race: How America Can Lead the Global Clean Energy Economy.** *Apollo Alliance and Good Jobs First.* March 2010.

The report estimates that 70% of America's renewable energy systems and components are manufactured abroad. If America continues to import these components, it stands to lose out on an estimated 100,000 clean energy manufacturing jobs between now and 2015, and potentially a quarter million manufacturing jobs by 2030, according to the report.

**ARTICLE 130**

## **Agriculture**

**USDA Agricultural Projections to 2019.** *U.S. Department of Agriculture.* February 2010.

The report provides long run projections for the agricultural sector. Projections cover agricultural commodities, trade, and aggregate indicators of the sector, such as farm income and food prices.

**ARTICLE 131**

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Agriculture.** *U.S. Department of State.* March 2010.

Humanity's longest struggle has been to feed itself. The report explores how 21st-century technical prowess and agricultural skill hold the key to feeding the growing populations of the future.

**Energy Use in the U.S. Food System** by Patrick Canning et al. *U.S. Department of Agriculture.* March 2010.

Analysis using the two most recent U.S. benchmark input-output accounts and a national energy data system shows that in the U.S., use of energy along the food chain for food purchases increased between 1997 and 2002 at more than six times the rate of increase in total domestic energy use. This increase in food-related energy flows is over 80% of energy flow increases nationwide over the period.

**ARTICLE 132**

**100% Renewable Energy – and Beyond – for Cities** . *World Future Council.* March 2010.

What does '100 percent renewable' really mean, and what does 'and beyond' signify? The paper provides strategies for cities to become 100% powered by renewable energy.

## **Science & Technology**

**Enabling Long-Term Access to Scientific, Technical and Medical Data Collections** by Jeff Rathenberg and Stijn Hoorens. *RAND Corporation.* March 8, 2010.

Online access to data collections has led to a new, deeper level of sharing and analysis, potentially accelerating and improving the quality of scientific research. Online datasets are becoming imperative at all stages of the research process, particularly in scientific, technical and medical (STM) disciplines. Since libraries have a traditional responsibility to guarantee the availability of scholarly research, they have an important role to play in facilitating long-term access to these resources.

**ARTICLE 133**

**Coal in China: Resources, Uses and Advanced Coal Technologies** by Gudong Sun. *Pew Center on Global Climate Change.* March 2010.

China's energy-development pathway has increasingly become a topic of international attention, particularly as China has become the largest national source of annual greenhouse gas emissions. In a world faced with increasing environmental pressures, China must develop ways to utilize coal more efficiently and more cleanly. Its ability to do so will be crucial for its domestic energy security, for its local environment and the well-being of its population, and for the future of the global climate.

**ARTICLE 134**

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